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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Norikazu SUGAYA et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2005-0044A
Filed March 7, 2005 :

METHOD FOR PRECLUDING ELUTION
OF LEAD AND NICKEL FROM COPPER
ALLOY PLUMBING HARDWARE, SUCH
AS VALVES AND TUBE COUPLINGS,
THE COPPER ALLOY PLUMBING
HARDWARE, AND LIQUID FOR
RINSING THE PLUMBING HARDWARE
[Corresponding to PCT/JP03/11493
Filed September 9, 2003]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: